Storytime™

STORY RHYME! COMPETITION



Can you compose an amazing poem –and win a fabulous prize?

Welcome to our latest competition! We'd like you to write a poem about your favourite place... and make us fall in love with it too! The best poems will win cool prizes – and get published in ***Storytime***! You might also discover that writing poems is fun, and a new poet will be born! This **Story Rhyme! Competition Pack** is full of info and activities that will help you to create your own unique poem...

The idea of writing poems about a special place was inspired by the story **The Stolen Treasure** from ***Storytime* 109**. It's about two pirate kids who discover a wonderful new home! (Pirates love to rhyme when singing sea shanties and are good at finding special places...) This pack will help you to rhyme... and give you great ideas for writing poetry! Will your entry be the one printed in ***Storytime*** next spring? We are looking forward to reading all your poems!

Remember, you are a poet... even if you don't know it!

INSIDE THIS PACK:

- What Is a Poem?
- Different Types of Poems & Rhymes
- Poetry Techniques
- Finish the Rhymes!
- Time to Rhyme!
- Rhyming Cards!
- Awesome Animal Alliteration!
- Super Similes!
- Talking About Places
- Top Tips for Writing Your Poem
- What Is Your Poem About?
- My Poetry Cloud!
- Story Rhyme! Competition Entry Form

How to enter: Write your poem on the entry form on page 17 of this pack. Enter your details, including a contact email address, and post or email your entry to us by 30th November 2023.

For full T&Cs visit **storytimemagazine.com/rhyme**

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™ STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

WHAT IS A POEM?

A poem is a piece of writing that uses words in creative ways to share ideas or emotions. Poems sound great when they are read out loud – they can be like 'songs without the music'. The words of many songs work well as poetry!



WHERE CAN I READ MORE POEMS?

Storytime featured fun poems with colourful illustrations in the **Poems & Rhymes** section in issues 1 to 73. There are plenty of books of poetry for kids in your school library, and you can also find poems online at **childrenspoetryarchive.org**. Reading poems is a great way to get ideas for your own masterpiece!

ARE NURSERY RHYMES ALSO POEMS?



Yes, they are! If you like singing nursery rhymes, you probably know a few classic poems already...

SHOULD I READ POEMS OUT LOUD?

Yes! Many poems are written to be read out loud, and it is a fun challenge to perform them in an entertaining way! You should read your poem aloud to yourself when you are writing it – that will help you to find ways to make it sound better.

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

DIFFERENT TYPES OF POEMS & RHYMES

storytime STORY RHYME! COMPETITION



Here are some cool and fun types of poems that you might want to check out!

Narrative poems

These are poems that tell a story!
EXAMPLE: **In Storytime issue 1**, we featured *The Owl and the Pussy-cat* by Edward Lear, which is a narrative poem.

Concrete poems

These are also called *shape poems*. The words are arranged to look like the thing you're writing about! You could write a poem about a snake in a long wiggly line or a poem about rain in a raindrop shape!

Acrostic Poems

***Acrostic poems* use the first letter of each line of the poem to spell out a word vertically.** This word relates to the subject of the poem!

Nonsense poems

These playful poems feature made-up words, characters or places, and are meant to be fun and creative!
EXAMPLE: In **Storytime issue 4**, we featured the nonsense poem *On the Ning Nang Nong* by Spike Milligan.

Haiku

***Haiku* are three-line Japanese poems that don't have to rhyme**. To be a haiku, a poem needs to have five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second line and five syllables in the third line.

Limericks

They are short, funny poems with five lines. They always start with the words "There was a..." and end in a silly way.
EXAMPLE: You can read Edward Lear's limerick *There Was an Old Man with a Beard* in **Storytime issue 12**.

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

POETRY TECHNIQUES

storytime STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

There are many clever tricks you can use when writing your poem!

RHYMING To make your poem rhyme, the words at the end of some lines should sound the same or very similar, e.g. *cow* and *now*. Not all poems rhyme, but the poem you write for the competition should have at least two rhymes in it.

Twinkle, twinkle little **star**,
How I wonder what you **are**!
Up above the world so **high**,
Like a diamond in the **sky**.

ALLITERATION This means using words that start with the same letter or sound. Alliteration sounds good when you read it out loud and gives your poem rhythm.

On the **p**avement
his **p**aws go **p**it-**p**at.
Could it be **C**laude
the **c**ool **k**itty **c**at?

ASSONANCE This is similar to alliteration, but instead of repeating the sound at the start of each word, you repeat vowel sounds in the words. This is another good way to give your poem rhythm.

To**da**y the sl**ei**gh
flew off ag**ai**n,
Right thro**ugh** the
big bl**ue** m**oo**n.

REPETITION You can repeat the same word, phrase or even line to get your ideas across. This also helps to give your poem rhythm – for an example, check out Edward Lear's *The Owl and the Pussy-Cat*.

The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy, my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are, You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"



SIMILES In poems, we often describe things in imaginative ways – similes are used to compare two things using the words 'like' or 'as' ('as cold as ice', 'as light as a feather').

Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.

METAPHORS When you use a metaphor, instead of saying something is 'like' something else, you say that it *is* that thing. For instance, you might say someone is a ray of sunshine, or describe tree branches as a 'wonderful stair', as Amy Lowell did in the poem *Climbing* (**Storytime 21**).

PERSONIFICATION In poems, you can use your imagination to bring objects or animals to life and describe them as you would describe a human. For example, in the nursery rhyme *Hey Diddle, Diddle*, '*the dish ran away with the spoon*'. (Read it in **Storytime 44**...)

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™ STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

FINISH THE RHYMES!

Test your rhyming skills by coming up with the perfect words to finish these poems!



Frankie the **frog**,
Lived in a **bog**,
Sat on a **log**,
Barked like a _____ !

In this **box**
There is a **fox**
And he is wearing
_____ !

Find a penny,
Pick it **up**,
Spend it on a
_____ !

If you ever meet a monster,
Here's what you should **do**:
Shake his hand and tell him
_____ !

Let's play outside,
Let's go for a ride,
Let's climb, let's **shout**,
Let's _____ !



You might think that on my back,
I'm carrying a school rucksack,
But there's a secret tucked in **there**,
_____ !

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™

STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

TIME TO RHYME!

How many words can you think of that rhyme with the things from the tale of 'The Stolen Treasure' below? Try out rhymes by saying them out loud!



SEA

BOAT

BIRD

LOCK

HOME

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

RHYMING CARDS!

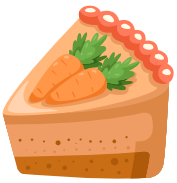
storytime™ STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

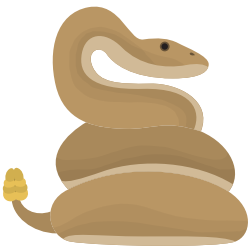
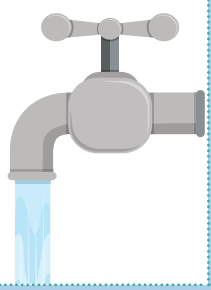
Rhyming is a fun way to come up with catchy poems! You can improve your rhyming skills by playing with these cards – can you sort them into pairs that rhyme with each other?

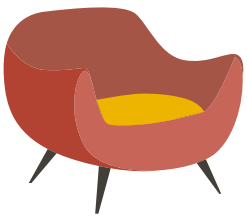
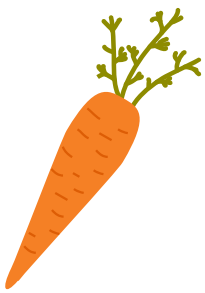







© storytimemagazine.com 2023

ANSWERS: *Goat* and *boat*, *cap* and *tap*, *bear* and *chair*, *hug* and *mug*, *parrot* and *carrot*, *star* and *car*, *cake* and *snake*, *book* and *hook*.

AWESOME ANIMAL ALLITERATION!

storytime™ STORY RHYME! COMPETITION



Alliteration is when two or more words begin with the same letter or sound. Can you draw a line between the words that alliterate in the lists below?

Adjective	Subject
Dizzy	Hedgehog
Slippery	Bug
Wonderful	Monkey
Crazy	Snake
Big	Octopus
Muddy	Pheasant
Happy	Goose
Frightened	Kangaroo
Orange	Donkey
Giant	Wombat

SOUND IT OUT! The best way to check if two words alliterate is by saying them one after another – do they sound the same? Remember, some words begin with similar sounds even though they don't start with the same letters! *For example, think of the words 'funny' and 'phone'...*

ANSWERS: *Dizzy Donkey, Slippery Snake, Wonderful Wombat, Crazy Kangaroo, Big Bug, Muddy Monkey, Happy Hedgehog, Frightened Pheasant, Orange Octopus, Giant Goose.*

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™
STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

SUPER SIMILES!



A simile is when you describe something as being *like* something else! They are great fun to use in poems – can you come up with creative similes by finishing the phrases below in your own way?

As blue as... the sea

As quick as...

As furry as...

As tall as...

As small as...

As clever as...

As hot as...

As slippery as...

TOP TIP: It's extra-fun if the words in your simile are alliterations as well! For example, as cute as a kitten!

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™ STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

TALKING ABOUT PLACES



Adjectives are 'describing words' – they tell us what things are like! On this page are two scenes and some adjectives that could be used to describe them. Pick the five adjectives that you think best describe each scene and write them down beside them!





Sunny Large Little Sandy Wild
Peaceful Quiet Green Cosy
Fun Bright Busy Cool Tall
Tall Modern Natural Urban

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™

STORY RHYME! COMPETITION

TOP TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR POEM



1. **Read before you write!** Check out some other poems before you start your own one – it's a great way to get ideas!

2. **Look around you!** A poem is all about how you see the world. That's why you should look at and think about the things around you. Doing this will help you find inspiration!

3. **Read it out loud!** Most poems work best if you recite them to yourself rather than just read them. Rhymes, alliteration and other cool poetic tricks sound awesome!

4. **Write what you feel!** Poems are great for capturing your emotions! Write about things that bring up strong feelings in you... like your favourite place!

5. **Compare things!** Similes and metaphors are used to describe things as being like other things. They are powerful tools for poets, so try to include at least one of them in your poem.

6. **Don't be afraid to repeat yourself!** Repeating something in your poem can be a *good* thing. You can use a phrase over and over again, maybe changing it slightly each time...

7. **Go wild!** In a poem, you don't have to obey all the 'rules' of writing. Feel free to play with words in new and interesting ways!

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

WHAT IS YOUR POEM ABOUT?

storytime STORY RHYME! COMPETITION



For this competition, you have to write a poem about your favourite place.

The best poems have a subject that the poet has strong feelings about – and writing them is a great way to express your emotions! For this *Storytime* competition you should **pick your favourite place.** It could be a room, a garden, a park, a museum, or even a place in the wilderness or the countryside. It doesn't matter where it is... the important thing is that you have strong feelings about it.

Now, close your eyes and think about your special place. What are the things that make it special to you? **Write down the things that come to mind** when you think about your special place.

MY SPECIAL PLACE IS:

_____

WHAT IS IT LIKE?

IT IS SPECIAL BECAUSE:

Finally, think about why it is special to you. **Is it because of the people there or the things you do** in that place?

Great work! Now turn to the next page to come up with words and ideas to use in your poem!

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

MY POETRY CLOUD!

storytime™
STORY RHYME! COMPETITION



On this page, write down words that describe your special place and how you feel when you are there. These words can be used in your poem!

WHAT IS MY SPECIAL PLACE LIKE?

HOW DO I FEEL WHEN I AM THERE?

WHAT DO I LIKE TO DO THERE?

Poem-Writing Checklist

- ☐ Have you chosen your place?
- ☐ Does your poem have a title?
- ☐ Does your poem have at least two rhymes in it?
- ☐ Have you picked your favourite words?
- ☐ Have you read your poem out loud?
- ☐ Have you added your name?
- ☐ Have you included your parent, carer or teacher's email address so we can contact them if you win? (Don' forget to ask permission first!)

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

storytime™ _____

© storytimemagazine.com 2023

STORY RHYME! COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

FULL NAME AND AGE: _____

SCHOOL: _____

PARENT, CARER OR TEACHER'S EMAIL*: _____

* Not essential, but it makes it much easier for us to contact you if you win – we do not share data!